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VIRGINIA GAZETTE.

Open to ALL PARTIES, but influenced by NONE.

RELATION *of a remarkable* DISCOVERY *of* MURDER

FROM THE GENTLEMAN'S MAGAZINE FOR AUGUST LAST.

Mr. URBAN,

I HAVE met with ſo very ſingular a relation of the diſcovery of A MURDER, committed ſome years ago in Guernſey, that I cannot omit ſending you an account of it, to be preſerved in your Magazine. The truth of it is unqueſtionable. The Clergyman of the place where it happened gave the relation, and many people ſtill living, who remember very minutely every material circumſtance, will readily confirm it.

About the year 1726 John Andrew Gordier, a Gentleman of French extraction, and of conſiderable fortune, in the iſland of Jerſey, was upon the point of marrying the daughter of a wealthy merchant of Guernſey; but, on a ſudden, he was loſt to his friends and relations, as well as to the Lady who was to have been his bride; and, notwithſtanding the moſt diligent enquiry in both iſlands, with every poſſible ſearch that could be made, not the leaſt intelligence could be obtained, either of his death, or his retreat. It happened, however, that, after a time, when all diſcourſe concerning him had ſubſided, his body was accidentally found in Guernſey, by ſome boys in traverſing the beach, with two wounds on the back, and one on the head, thruſt into the cavity of a rock, whoſe mouth was ſo ſmall, that it muſt have been with difficulty that the body could be made to enter it. This diſcovery, with thoſe evident proofs of murder, alarmed the two families. The former enquiries were in vain renewed; not the leaſt light, either to countenance ſuſpicion, or to ground conjecture, could be gathered, to trace out the murderer; and all that could be done, was to pay the laſt duty to the remains of the unfortunate youth, by ſolemnizing his funeral with all the marks of unaffected ſorrow.

The mother of the young Gentleman remained inconſolable; and the Lady to whom he was ſoon to have been wedded, pined in ſecret for the loſs of the only man in the world whom ſhe could love. She was, indeed, courted by a young merchant; but though ſhe was, in a manner, conſtrained by her parents to admit his addreſſes, ſhe was inwardly reſolved never to give him her hand.

The mother of Gordier, who never ceaſed to ruminate on the cataſtrophe which had befallen her ſon, was not a little ſolicitous for the welfare of the young Lady, whom ſhe looked upon as her daughter-in-law, and whom ſhe regarded with the greater tenderneſs, as ſhe heard how ſeverely ſhe was affected by the ſudden diſappearance of her intended huſband.

Some years afterwards, being told that the young Lady's life was in danger, ſhe reſolved to croſs the ſea that divides the iſlands, in order to afford her every conſolation in her power, by condoling with her, ſharing her griefs, and thereby endeavouring to alleviate the ſorrows of her heart. As attendants in her voyage, Mrs. Gordier took with her a beloved brother, and an only ſurviving ſon. When they arrived, they were adviſed by the apothecary, who attended the young Lady, not to ſurprize her by an unlooked-for viſit, till ſhe was prepared by degrees to receive it: But, notwithſtanding all the care that could be taken, the ſight of the mother brought to her mind the full remembrance of the ſon, and the ſhock was too great for her weak ſpirits to bear: She fainted upon the firſt approach of Mrs. Gordier, and it was with difficulty that ſhe was brought to herſelf. The mother was curious to know every little circumſtance that attended the laſt interview of the young lovers, and of all that had paſſed ſince the diſcovery of the murder of her ſon, and the young Lady was no leſs earneſt to prolong the converſation; but her fits returned at almoſt every period, and ſhe could only ſay how tenderly they parted, and with what ardency ſhe expected his promiſed return the next day. It was no ſmall concern to the afflicted mother to ſee the poor Lady in this weak ſtate, dying, as ſhe plainly perceived ſhe was, of a broken heart; and the company preſent could not forbear vehement execrations againſt the author of this double diſtreſs.

Mrs. Gordier, all on a ſudden, burſt into a flood of tears, on ſeeing a jewel pendent to the young Lady's watch, which ſhe knew her ſon had purchaſed, as a preſent to her, before he left the iſland of Jerſey. The violence of her grief was obſerved by the young Lady, who had juſt ſpirits enough to aſk her the immediate cauſe. Being told that the ſight of a jewel, the preſentation of which to his beloved bride was to be the pledge of their mutual happineſs, revived in her mind her irreparable loſs, the young Lady was ſeemingly ſtruck with horror and aſtoniſhment at the declaration, and, touching the jewel as with an expreſſion of contempt, ſunk into the arms of her weeping viſitor, and, without uttering a ſingle word, except only M. Cl—e—r—, breathed her laſt.

The manner of her expiring ſeemed to involve a myſtery. All preſent were aſtoniſhed. The confuſion which her death occaſioned ſtopped, for ſome time, all further utterance; but, when every means had been uſed to reſtore her, without being able to bring her to life, and when the effuſions of ſorrow, poured forth at her death, had for a while ceaſed, all who were preſent began to ſpeak what they thought of her behaviour in her laſt dying moments. Mrs Gordier, who was totally unacquainted with the ſoft and delicate temper of the deceaſed, could not help dropping ſome unfavourable expreſſions concerning her manner of leaving the world, which ſhe thought plainly enough indicated a knowledge of the murder. Her own parents, who were preſent at this laſt affecting ſcene, fired with indignation at the inſult offered to the unſpotted innocence of their darling child, could not help reſenting the ungenerous interpretation put upon the laſt cloſing moments of her blameleſs life. A ſcene of trouble and mutual reproach enſued, which is eaſier to conceive than to relate. When the commotion, however, was a little abated, and reaſon began to take place, the friends of both families very cordially interpoſed, and endeavoured to reconcile the mothers by a cool examination of the circumſtances that occaſioned the unſeaſonable heat.

Young Mr. Gordier recollected that he had heard his brother declare that the jewel in queſtion was to be preſented to his bride on her wedding day; and therefore, as that had never happened, his mother might be juſtified in her ſuſpicions, though perhaps the Lady might be innocent. The ſiſter of the deceaſed calmly replied, that ſhe believed the warmth that had happened to be founded on a miſtake, which ſhe thought herſelf happy in being able to correct. The jewel, ſhe ſaid, which her ſiſter wore, was not preſented to her by Mr. Gordier, but was a preſent to her, ſome years after his unhappy death, by Mr. Galliard, a very reputable merchant in Jerſey, who had very aſſiduouſly paid his addreſſes to her, encouraged ſo to do with a view, if poſſible, to relieve her mind, by diverting her affections to a new object; that as many jewels have the ſame appearance, that purchaſed by Mr. Gordier, and that preſented by Mr. Galliard, might probably not be the ſame. Mrs. Gordier very readily acquieſced; and, having had time to recover her temper, fell again into tears, and, in the moſt affecting manner, apologized for her late indiſcretion, adding, at the ſame time, that if it was the jewel purchaſed by her ſon, his picture was artfully concealed within it, which, by opening, would put the matter beyond a doubt. The ſiſter, nor any of the family, had ever ſeen it opened, and knew nothing of ſuch a contrivance. Young Gordier, in a moment, touched a ſecreted ſpring, and preſented to the company the miniature encloſed, moſt beautifully enriched. The conſternation was now equal to the diſcovery. The myſtery was unravelled. It was inſtantly concluded that the horror of the murder muſt have ſtruck the deceaſed, and the deteſtation of the murderer overcame her. The contempt with which ſhe wanted to ſpurn the jewel from her, and her deſire to declare from whom ſhe had it, all theſe circumſtances concurred to fix the murder on Mr. Galliard, who having been formerly her father's clerk, the laſt word ſhe attempted to utter was now interpreted to mean the cl-e-r-k.

The Clergyman, who was preſent, and who gave this relation, being the common friend of Galliard and the family where he now was, adviſed moderation and temper in the purſuit of juſtice. Many circumſtances, he ſaid, may concur to entangle innocence in the ſnares of guilt; and, he hoped, for the honour of human nature, that a Gentleman of ſo fair a character as Mr. Galliard, could never be guilty of ſo foul a crime; he therefore wiſhed he might be ſent for, on the preſent melancholy occaſion, rather as a mourner, than as a murderer; by which means the charge might be brought on by degrees, and then, if innocent, as he hoped he would appear, his character would ſtand fair; if guilty, care ſhould be taken that he ſhould not eſcape. He added, in ſupport of his counſel, that a man, once publicly charged with murder, upon circumſtances ſtrong as the preſent appeared, though his innocence might be clear as the ſun at noon day to thoſe who examined him, yet would never again be able to redeem his character with the world, let his whole life after be ever ſo irreproachable.

The greateſt part of the company ſeemed to approve of his advice, and his reaſons; but it was viſible, by the countenance of Mrs. Gordier, that ſhe, in her own mind, had prejudged him *guilty*. However, in conformity to the advice that had been given, Mr. Galliard was ſent for, and, in a few hours, the meſſenger returned, accompanied by Mr. Galliard in perſon. The old Lady, on his entering the room, in the vehemence of her paſſion, charged him abruptly with the murder of her ſon. Mr. Galliard made anſwer coolly, that indeed he well knew her ſon, but had not ſeen him for many days before the day of his diſappearance, being then out of the iſland upon buſineſs, as the family, in whoſe houſe he now was, could atteſt. But this jewel, ſaid the mother (ſhewing him the jewel open as it was) is an inconteſtible proof of your guilt. You gave the deceaſed this jewel, which was purchaſed by my ſon, and was in his poſſeſſion at the time of his death. He denied ever ſeeing the jewel. The ſiſter of the deceaſed then confronted him; and, taking it in her hand, and cloſing it, this jewel, ſaid ſhe, you gave to *my* ſiſter in *my* preſence, on ſuch a day (naming the day, the hour, and the place) preſſed her to accept it; ſhe refuſed it. You preſſed her again; ſhe returned it, and was not prevailed on to take it, till I placed it to her watch, and perſuaded her to wear it. He now betrayed ſome ſigns of guilt; but, looking upon it when it was cloſed, he owned the giving it, and, preſently recollecting himſelf, ſaid he knew it not in the form it was firſt preſented to him: But this trinket, ſaid he, I purchaſed of Levi the Jew, whom you all know, and who has travelled theſe iſlands for more than 20 years. He, no doubt, can tell how he came by it. The Clergyman now thought himſelf happy in the counſel he had given; and, addreſſing himſelf to Mrs. Gordier, I hope, Madam, you will now be patient till the affair has had a full hearing. Mr. Galliard is clear in his juſtification, and the Jew only, at preſent, appears to be the guilty perſon; he is now in the iſland, and ſhall ſoon be apprehended. The old Lady was again calm, and forced to acknowledge her raſhneſs, owing, as ſhe ſaid, to the impetuoſity of her temper, and to the occaſion that produced it. She concluded with begging pardon of Galliard, whom ſhe thought ſhe had injured.

Galliard triumphed in his innocence, hoped the Lady would be careful of what ſhe ſaid, and threatened, if his character ſuffered by the charge, to refer the injury to the deciſion of the law. He lamented the ſudden death of the unfortunate young Lady, and melted into tears when he approached her bed. He took his leave, after ſome hours ſtay, with becoming decency, and every one, even the mother, pronounced him innocent.

It was ſome days before the Jew was found; but when the news was ſpread that the Jew was in cuſtody who had murdered young Gordier, remorſe, and the fear of public ſhame, ſeized Galliard, and the night preceding the day on which he was to have confronted the Jew before a Magiſtrate, he was found dead, with a bloody penknife in his hand, wherewith he had ſtabbed himſelf in three places, two of which were mortal.

A letter was found on the table in his room, acknowledging his guilt, and concluding with theſe remarkable words: "None but thoſe who have experienced the furious impulſe of ungovernable love will pardon the crime which I have committed, in order to obtain the incomparable object by whom my paſſions were inflamed. But thou, O Father of mercies! who implanted in my ſoul thoſe ſtrong deſires, will forgive one raſh attempt to accompliſh my determined purpoſe, in oppoſition, as it ſhould ſeem, to thy almighty providence!"

LONDON, *Auguſt* 27.

A CONSIDERABLE number of the merchants trading to the Britiſh colonies, having prepared the following addreſs to the Earl of Hillſborough, a committee from them waited on, and preſented it to, his Lordſhip on Tueſday.

CONSIDERATIONS *on the* NEGRO CAUSE, *commonly ſo called, addreſſed to the Right Honourable Lord* MANSFIELD. *By a* Weſt Indian.

THIS writer ſays, being a Weſt Indian, he was led ſomewhat intereſtedly to attend to the arguments lately offered in the court of King's Bench, in the caſe of Somerſet the Negro verſus Knowles and others. His object therefore was information; but (he adds) without meaning to leſſen the labours, or to depreciate the merits of the learned counſel concerned therein, the lights thrown on the caſe did by no means appear to him as, on either ſide, deciſive of the point in queſtion. And our author gives the following, among other reaſons, for his opinion:

'It was ſaid, I remember, by one of the counſel, that the preſent ſtate of ſlavery among Negroes was totally different from the ancient condition of villenage; that it was a new ſpecies of ſlavery utterly unknown to the common law of England. In this opinion I readily coincide, and agree with the learned Gentleman. The next queſtion is, what do acts of Parliament ſay on this head? I believe it muſt be ſaid for them, that they are, enactively, if I may be allowed the expreſſion, ſilent. If this be ſo, then the concluſion will operate in the nature of a plea to the juriſdiction of your Lordſhip's court. If the caſe be unknown to the common law, and acts of Parliament are ſilent thereupon, what baſis muſt your Lordſhip's judgment take? where there is no law there can be no remedy. If the common law be defective, it is the buſineſs of acts of Parliament to ſupply the defects; but until thoſe defects are ſupplied, *ſub judice lis eſt*, and the matter muſt remain undetermined. Your Lordſhip may however tell me, that, where poſitive law is wanting, whereupon to ground the deciſions of a court, recourſe may be had to the maxims and principles of law, to the ſpirit of the conſtitution. The reſult of this, my Lord, at beſt is but matter of opinion; beſides, caſes founded on the ſelf ſame principles, will often have very different determinations, according to the difference of circumſtances, and the alteration or change of times. Thus, if it had even been an original maxim of the common law, that ſlavery was incompatible with the frame and conſtitution of this country, yet it does not therefore follow, that occaſions have not ſince ariſen to combat with this principle, and to juſtify particular concluſions differing from theſe general premiſes. The impreſſing of ſeamen, my Lord, is an idea as heterogeneous to the nature and eſſence of this government as ſlavery painted on the blackeſt ground can be. It is ſlavery itſelf, in its very definition; and what ſignifies the name, ſays Hudibras, ſince the thing is the ſame? But the indeſpenſableneſs of the meaſure has nevertheleſs (to continue the metaphor) given colour to the practice, and it is now ſeen in another light and view. But to return, if your Lordſhip ſhould be of opinion, for opinion it muſt be, if there is no poſitive law to ground your judgment upon, that Negroes in this country are free, I will place in oppoſition to this, the opinions of the late Lord Chancellor Hardwicke, and his predeceſſor the Lord Chancellor Talbot, to wit, that Negroes in this country are not free. Your Lordſhip perceives that I take your opinion upon ſuppoſition only; the other opinions are well known facts. To ſearch then for the grounds of your opinion, without the certainty of its being ſo, would be now premature and unneceſſary; but, knowing the opinions of theſe two great oracles of law, it is of neceſſity to conclude, that they had the moſt ſufficient foundation for them, ſeeing that it is allowed on every hand, that no opinion was ever given in any caſe whatever with greater ſolemnity, or more deliberation, than theſe were. Now, my Lord, to inveſtigate the reaſons, of theſe opinions, is one way, perhaps, to arrive at the truth; but to follow men, like theſe, in their reſearches, is a procedure fitted only to abilities ſuch as your Lordſhip's are. However, conjecture is open to all, though poſitive knowledge is but the gift of a few. Upon this conſideration, then, I ſhall venture to ſuggeſt what might in part have led the ideas of theſe great and wiſe men to the concluſion which they have drawn, namely, that Negroes in this country do not become free. I have before ſtated, my Lord, and have agreed with one of the learned counſel, that the condition of ſlavery among Negroes is unknown to the common law of this land; that it is a new ſpecies of ſlavery, which has ariſen within, and not beyond the memory of man, as is neceſſary to the deſcriptive quality of this kind of law; and, therefore, being not under the comprehenſion, it cannot be within the abſolute proviſion of it, however reduceable thereto, it may be made by analogy, implication, or conſtruction. I have ſaid too, that acts of Parliament are ſilent on this head. I have repeated what I had before ſtated and ſaid, in order to draw this inference; that although the ſlavery of Negroes is unknown to the common law of this country, and acts of Parliament are ſilent thereupon; yet the right which Mr. Stewart claims in the Negro Somerſet, is a right given him by act of Parliament.

'I muſt now then apprize your Lordſhip, that from this inſtant it is my intention to drop the term ſlavery. It is an odious word, that engendered this law ſuit, and now feeds and ſupports it with the fuel of heated paſſions and imaginations. Inſtead then of ſuch prejudiced and unpopular ground, whereupon the caſe has hitherto been made to ſtand, I ſhall take the liberty to remove its ſituation, to change its point of view, and to reſt it on the land of property; from whence, perhaps, it will be ſeen, not only in a leſs offenſive light, but where alſo it may find a foundation more ſolid and ſubſtantial for its ſupport.

'It is a matter of courſe, my Lord, to ſay that you are well acquainted with all the acts of Parliament relative to the Royal African company of merchants, from their eſtabliſhment by charter in the reign of Charles II. down to the preſent time. Now, my Lord, the end of this company was trade; the object of that trade Negroes, as the preamble to the act of the 23d of Geo. II. c. 31, thus expreſsly declares: 'Whereas the trade to and from Africa is 'very advantageous to Great Britain, and neceſſary 'for ſupplying the plantations and colonies thereun-'to belonging with a ſufficient number of Negroes, 'at reaſonable rates, it is therefore enacted, &c.' Whatever then, my Lord, is matter of trade, your Lordſhip knows muſt be matter of property. The idea of the one is neceſſarily involved in the other. But, my Lord, theſe acts have not been content with this general conſtruction; they have gone farther, and have themſelves ſet the mark and ſtamp of property upon Negroes. Whether, my Lord, the legiſlature is juſtifiable herein, or whether it has authority by the laws of nature to do this, is not for me to determine. It is, perhaps, a right, like many other civil rights, eſtabliſhed by power, and maintained by force; but this is matter of ſpeculation for the ſpeculative. I contend only, that the fact is as I have ſtated it to be; and as it will appear by the ſtatute of the 25th of Geo. II. c. 40, which was made for application of a ſum of money therein mentioned, granted to his Majeſty, for a compenſation to the African company for their charter, lands, forts, caſtles, ſlaves, military ſtores, and other effects; and to *veſt* the lands, forts, caſtles, *ſlaves*, military ſtores, and *other effects*, in the company of merchants trading to Africa.

'Here, my Lord, the legal nature of Negroes, if I may ſo ſpeak, is fully eſtabliſhed, and clearly aſcertained by act of Parliament. Your Lordſhip perceives, that they are veſted as goods and chattels, and as other effects are, in owners preſcribed for them. It is obſervable too, that the very term ſlave is made uſe of, and recognized by this act of Parliament; but inaſmuch as this is irrelative to the preſent queſtion, ſo alſo may it be ſaid not pointedly to fix the idea of ſlavery, but deſcriptively only of ſuch things as ſhall be deemed the property and effects of this company. The ſtatute, my Lord, of the 5th of his preſent Majeſty, ch. xliv. enacts, that ſuch parts of Africa as were ceded by the laſt treaty of Paris, with the goods, ſlaves, and other effects thereunto belonging, and which were, by a former act, veſted in the African company of merchants, ſhall now become the property of the crown; ſo that the King, as well as this corporation of merchants, are, by the law of the land, poſſeſſed, and are now the actual and rightful owners, of a very conſiderable number of Negroes, under the deſcription of canoe men, caſtle ſlaves, women, children, carpenters, and other artificers, particularly ſet forth in ſchedules annexed to the aforementioned acts. It is alſo enacted, that the trade to Africa ſhall be free and open to all his Majeſty's ſubjects, without preference or diſtinction; and it is further provided, that theſe acts ſhall be deemed and received as public acts, to be judicially taken notice of by all judges and others to whom it may concern, without ſpecially pleading the ſame.

'Upon this ſtate and expoſition then, my Lord, of theſe ſeveral ſtatutes, it would ſeem that I am fully warranted, by their authority, in my idea, that the right which Mr. Stewart claims in the Negro Somerſet, is a right given him by act of Parliament; and confirmed in my propoſition, that this is a caſe of property.

'But, my Lord, in order fully to eſtabliſh this doctrine, it may perhaps be expected, that I ſhould not only ſhew what the law is, but that I ſhould prove alſo what the law is not; and this muſt neceſſarily lead me to reaſon ſomewhat more cloſely on the ſubject.

'I am aware it may be objected, my Lord, that property in Negroes ſo veſted, is a property created in Africa for the uſe and purpoſe of the colonies in America; from whence a queſtion will be deduced, whether Negroes are property in England?

'It appears, my Lord, that a trade is opened with the ſanction and under the protection of Parliament, between the ſubjects of Great Britain and the natives or inhabitants of Africa. The medium of this trade, on the one hand, are manufactures, goods, wares, and other merchandize; on the other, captive Negroes, or ſlaves; which, for theſe commodities, are given in barter and exchange. It will be allowed I preſume, my Lord, that theſe Britiſh traders, or merchants, have an abſolute property in their merchandize; to truck and to traffic with this merchandize is the legal inſtitution of the trade; it will be abſurd then to deny that they have not an equal intereſt in the thing received, as they had in the thing given. To avoid this dilemma then, the objection recurs; that, in Africa they may have an intereſt, in America they may have the ſame, in Europe they have none; but aſſertion without proof, is argument without weight. Where is the law that has drawn this line of diſtinction? Is there any act of Parliament, or clauſe of an act of Parliament, that has fixed and deſcribed the zones or climates wherein property in Negroes may be had, or where it may not be had? Until I am better informed, my Lord, I muſt take for granted, that no ſuch law exiſts; and if no ſuch law does exiſt, the manifeſt concluſion is, that where property is once legally veſted, it muſt legally remain, until altered or extinguiſhed by ſome power coequal to that which gave it.

CHARLESTOWN (SOUTH CAROLINA) *October* 8.

Many and great loſſes are ſuſtained in this province, in conſequence of the late failures in Europe, but happily the ſufferers are moſt able to bear them.

A letter from Placeen in the Voightland (in Germany) of the 4th of June laſt, repreſents that country in ſuch extreme diſtreſs, that the inhabitants could not procure proviſions under the following enormous prices, viz. rye at twelve dollars per buſhel, barley at eight, and oats at four.

NEW YORK, *October* 26.

A letter from a Gentleman in St. Croix to a friend in St. Euſtatia, concludes thus: "Our General is one of the beſt and moſt humane men that ever governed a country. He has taken every ſtep in his power to help the unhappy ſufferers. He ſtands by to ſee the poor people, who loſt their all, ſupplied with the King's proviſions. His purſe is always open to the diſtreſſed; he viſits, in perſon, the ſufferers, and affords them all the conſolation he can poſſibly think of. The poor, inſtead of being ſpurned from his gate, are courted, and requeſted to make known their grievances. May his days be long and happy! is the wiſh of every inhabitant of this iſland."

How happy muſt thoſe ſubjects be whoſe Governors become the fathers of the people? Cicero, when he was hailed the father of his country, did not appear with greater luſtre than Jan De Windt, Eſquire, Governor of St. Euſtatia, and Ulrich Wilhelm Van Roepſtorff, Eſquire, Governor General of St. Croix, now do. Their truly tender humanity ſets them far above the Roman; and for which we hope they will receive that eternal reward which Kings cannot confer, nor none but the virtuous aſpire to. It would be injuſtice to the worthies of our own country not to mention their names with honour; but ſo long as the names of M'Call and Kemble, Hunter and Emrz, Welſh, Moore, and Ellis, remain, they muſt be eſteemed.

PHILADELPHIA, *November* 2.

Extract of a letter from London, Auguſt 27.

"You may hug yourſelf that you are ſettled in Philadelphia, and not in London, as the diſtreſs among the merchants and traders in this city is beyond conception. Capital houſes are breaking every day, and nobody knows whoſe turn will be next, ſo that all confidence, between man and man, is at an end, and when it will be reſtored God only knows. To explain this matter a little, I muſt remind you that the chief part of the trade of this city is carried on upon credit, and that paper of various denominations is employed to ſupply the place of money; this paper credit has been carried too far, both by perſons of property, and thoſe of none; and this circulation was got beyond all bounds, as the bank was very free to diſcount to any amount, on what they called good paper; but when Fordyce, the banker, blew up, it was then diſcovered what an immenſe chain of circulation was carried on, and a great part of it without any ſolid foundation. The Scotch banks, in particular, had iſſued an amazing ſum in paper, which, though ſecured in ſome ſort by great landed eſtates, yet could not be diſcharged in any reaſonable time, and they depended on the bank of England for their currency. The bank, alarmed by theſe diſcoveries, were determined to ſtop their hands, and for a while no paper could be diſcounted, and, even to this time, they diſcount very ſparingly. This refuſal of the bank put the whole city into convulſions. People were ſtopping every day, and many of them finiſhed their lives *a l' Anglois*, as the French term it. One houſe by this means, overſet another, and many ſolid houſes were obliged to demand time, becauſe they could not diſcharge their paper at ſo ſhort a warning. I have been ſomething tedious in this deſcription, but I could not, off hand, bring it into leſs compaſs, and I thought you would wiſh to have this matter inveſtigated."

WILLIAMSBURG, *November* 12.

Laſt Monday morning died, in the 47th year of her age, Mrs. SARAH PITT, whoſe many virtues through every varied ſcene of private life did honour to the principles ſhe profeſſed. Taught, by early experience, that afflictions and diſappointments were the lot of humanity, her conſtant ſtudy was to riſe ſuperior to them by a humble acquieſcence to the diſpenſations of Providence. Her boſom "tremblingly alive" to every tender ſentiment of connubial and maternal affection, ſhe diſcharged the duties of the wife and mother in ſuch a diſtinguiſhed manner as muſt make her memory revered, and her loſs forever regretted, by each of thoſe relations. Prudence guided every action of her life, and bleſſed with an uncom-